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Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02691 141406Z

42
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 OES-06 STR-04 CIEP-02 ACDA-10 MC-02 SAM-01

/136 W
---------- 063052
R 141339Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1076
INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 2691

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, IS, SF
SUBJECT: VISIT TO ISRAEL OF PRIME MINISTER VORSTER

REFS: (A) TEL AVIV 2401, (B) TEL AVIV 2551

1. SOTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER DEPARTED FROM ISRAEL LATE APRIL 12 AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS FOUR DAY VISIT. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE MR. VORSTER SAID THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD AGREED TO EXPAND THEIR RELATIONS IN THE FIELDS OF INVESTMENTS, DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, AND JOINT UTILIZATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN RAW MATERIALS AND ISRAELI TECHNOLOGY. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC COOPERATION. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE HE DENIED THAT ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA WERE CONSIDERING AN ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP. HE ALSO DENIED PRESS SPECULATION THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD DISCUSSED JOINT STRATEGY TOWARD BLACK AFRICAN STATES.

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2. PRESS CONVERAGE OF THE VISIT WAS RELATIVELY SPARSE, PERHAPS

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BECAUSE FOR SECURITY REASONS THERE WAS LITTLE OR NO ADVANCE
NOTICE OF DETAILS, BUT THERE WAS WIDE
DAILY COVERAGE ON TELEVISION. FOR
EXAMPLE, EXTENSIVE TELEVISION COVERAGE WAS GIVEN TO
VORSTER'S VISIT TO SHARM ASH SHAYKH WITH EMPHASIS ON THE
FACT THAT HE WAS THE FIRST FOREIGN LEADER TO VISIT THAT
OCCUPIED AREA DURING AN OFFICIAL VISIT. THERE HAS ALSO
BEEN LITTLE EDITORIAL COMMENT THUS FAR ALTHOUGH MORE IS TO
BE EXPECTED.ONE OF THE FEW EDITORIALS HAS ARGUED AGAINST
ARMS SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA WHILE ANOTHER EXPRESSED THE HOPE
THAT THE VISIT WOULD NOT AFFECT ISRAEL'S GROWING UNDERSTANDING
WITH THE MORE MODERATE BLACK AFRICAN STATES. ONE PRESS
COMMENTATOR REPORTED ON DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER
RABIN AND FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON REGARDING THE VISIT: DURING
A CABINET DISCUSSION BEFORE THE VISIT ALLON IS SAID TO HAVE
URGED THAT SOME MODERATION BE OBSERVED IN THE RECEPTION GIVEN
VORSTER. RABIN DISAGREED AND SPECIFIED THAT VORSTER WAS TO BE
GIVEN ALL RESPECT NORMALLY SHOWN TO A FRIENDLY HEAD OF GOVERNMENT.

3. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DISCUSS THE VISIT WITH AUTHORITATIVE
SOURCES IN THE FOREIGN MINISTER BECAUSE OF THE PASSOVER
HOLIDAYS BUT WILL FORWARD A FURTHER REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, IS, SF, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006